

## Unit Highlights

Visitors to this Ranger District will enjoy the recreation serenity of an upland pine ecosystem, the historic past of Gum Springs Recreation Complex, the serenity of a float trip down scenic Saline Bayou National Wild and Scenic River, and a great trail ride on the Gum Springs Horse Trail.

## Surrounding Areas

Located in an area of hilly terrain and natural springs, Gum Springs Recreation Complex exhibits design and construction from the Civilian Conservation Corps era of the 1930's. The Gum Springs Campground offers picnicking and camping, and is across U.S Highway 84 from Gum Springs Horse Camp and Trail. Approximately 21 miles of Saline Bayou is designated a National Wild and Scenic River because of its unique qualities. It is a peaceful setting, where bald cypress and other hardwoods growing along the banks are reflected in the bayou's quiet waters. The bayou can flow over its banks during high water making the journey hazardous. Check with the Winn Ranger District about water conditions. Cloud Crossing Recreation Complex on the banks of Saline Bayou is an ideal put-in / take-out point for boating or canoeing.

## For More Information

### Winn Ranger District

9671 Highway 84 West  
Winnfield, Louisiana 71483-9501  
Phone: (318) 628-4664  
Fax: (800)-628-2971  
www.fs.fed.us/r8/kisatchie

# Winn Ranger District

## Kisatchie National Forest

*Caring for the **land** and serving **people***



## Recreational Information

### General

This District encompasses 102,000 acres of Winn, Natchitoches, and Grant Parishes. It is in close proximity to the Winnfield area.

### Developed Recreation

The District administers two developed recreation complexes: Gum Springs Recreation Complex is a designated fee area: User fees are as follows:

Day-Use Fees: - Free

Camping Fees: - \$2.00 / night

### Dispersed Recreation

The District offers over 20 miles of canoeing along Saline Bayou and over 29 miles of hiking, biking, and horseback trails.

### Other Essentials

Because of its close proximity to Winnfield and the Catahoula Wildlife Management Preserve, the Winn Ranger District has become a popular area offering various hunting opportunities. State licenses and regulations apply, along with an additional management preserve permit issued by the forest. Seasonal designated camping areas, or "Hunter's Camps" with limited facilities, are established in and around the management preserve area during hunting season.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs and marital or family status. (Not all basis apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the USDA Office of Communications at 202-720-5881 (voice) or 202-720-7808 (TDD).

To file a complaint, write the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250, or call 202-720-7327 (voice) or 202-720-1127 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity employer.

## Other Essentials

### Saline Bayou National Scenic River Corridor

The Saline Bayou corridor is located west of Louisiana Hwy 1233. The northern boundary is just north of Louisiana Hwy 126 and the southern border is Saline Lake.

There are various woods roads and highway entry points to the bayou, where a visitor can launch a canoe or take a pleasant hike within this healthy southern ecosystem. A visitor should watch for wood ducks, pileated woodpeckers, otters, and many other unusual wildlife species. This meandering bayou supports a wide variety of wildlife and plant species, and offers a rare opportunity to experience a range of ecosystems ranging from upland pine forest to cypress tupelo swamps.

### Gum Springs Horse Trail


The Gum Springs Horse Trail is a tremendously popular destination not only for Louisianans, but for cowboys from Oklahoma, Nebraska, and other states. This is a great forest ride for cowboys and cowgirls and the trail is wide enough to accommodate wagons. Plan your next trail ride on the Gum Springs Horse Trail.



Gum Springs Horse Camp

Recreational Opportunities and Facilities on the Winn Ranger District																										
Fees	Picnic	Camping					Water Sports					Trails					Facilities									
\$																										
Areas Daily Usage Fee																										
Cloud Crossing Recreation Complex																										
Cloud Crossing Day-Use Site	free	✓										✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Cloud Crossing Group-Use Site	free		✓									✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
Cloud Crossing Campground	free			✓	✓	✓						✓	✓												✓	✓
Saline Bayou Recreation Trail	free																			✓	✓					
Gum Springs Recreation Complex																										
Gum Springs Day-Use Area	\$3	✓																							✓	✓
Gum Springs Campground	\$3			✓	✓	✓						✓													✓	✓
Gum Springs Horse Camp and Trail																										
Gum Springs Horse Camp and Trail	\$3			✓	✓	✓	✓					✓								✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
Saline Bayou Wild and Scenic River																										
Saline Launch Area	free													✓				✓	✓	✓	✓					
Cloud Crossing Launch Area	free													✓				✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	
Pearfield Launch Area	free													✓					✓	✓						
Goldonna Launch Area	free													✓				✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	
Sand Point Launch Area	free													✓					✓	✓						
Other Recreation Areas																										
Dogwood Hiking Trail	free																			✓					✓	
Highway 472 Camp	free				✓	✓	✓																		✓	





## Winn District Prairie

On the Winn District, remnants of prairie remain in the Keiffer and Tancock prairie areas. In the early 1800's, surveyors mapped the Tancock Prairie at about 750 acres. Today, due to changes in the landscape, fewer than 100 acres of this prairie remains. Another nearby historic prairie of 1,200 acres, the Bartram Prairie, can no longer be found, having grown up into woodlands



Gum Springs Campground Site





